

**Minutes of the Licensing Sub-Committee 1
Tuesday, 19th March 2024 at 10.00 am.
In the Council Chamber, The Council House, Priory Road,
Dudley**

Present:

Councillors T Creed, M Howard, and E Taylor

Officers: -

N Slym (Assistant Team Manager - Licensing and Waste Enforcement), T Holder (Solicitor) and K Buckle (Democratic Services Officer).

44. **Election of Chair**

It was noted that Councillor E Taylor was elected Chair for this meeting of the Sub-Committee only.

(Councillor E Taylor in the Chair)

45. **Apology for Absence**

An apology for absence from the meeting was submitted on behalf of Councillor A Lees.

46. **Appointment of Substitute Member**

It was reported that Councillor E Taylor had been appointed as a substitute Member for Councillor A Lees for this meeting of the Sub-Committee only.

47. **Declaration of Interests**

No Member made a declaration of interest in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct.

48. **Minutes**

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting held on 27th February 2024, be approved as a correct record and signed.

49. **Application for a Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permit – The Chequers Inn, 96 High Street, Stourbridge**

A report of the Director of Environment was submitted in respect of an application for the grant of a Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permit for six Category machines at the premises known as the Chequers Inn, 96 High Street, Stourbridge.

Mr J Taylor Area Manager for JD Wetherspoon PLC and Mr A Portman Relief Manager of the Chequers Inn were present at the meeting.

Following Introductions, the Assistant Team Manager (Licensing and Waste Enforcement) presented the report on behalf of the Council and Mr Taylor responded to questions asked by the Sub-Committee. Mr Taylor clarified the positioning of the machines, and the application was in order to create additional revenue.

It was confirmed that there were procedures and policies in place for those accessing the Gaming Machines.

The Solicitor provided a summary of the case, following which all parties withdrew from the meeting to enable the Sub-Committee to determine the application.

The Sub-Committee having made their decision invited the parties to return and the Solicitor outlined the decision.

Resolved

That, following consideration of the information contained in the report submitted, the grant of a Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permit for six Category C machines at the premises known as the Chequers Inn, 96 High Street, Stourbridge, be approved.

50. **Application for Grant of a New Premises Licence – The Black Country Wellbeing Centre.**

A report of the Director of Environment was submitted on an application for grant of a new premises licence in respect of The Black Country Wellbeing Centre, Vale Street, Upper Gornal.

The following persons were in attendance at the meeting:

N Warmer – Personal Licence Holder

W Cooper – Director

L and W Watton – Community Volunteers and Members of the Committee

Objectors

Honorary Alderman B Cotterill

E Barrett

Lynn Whittingham

J Carter

A Jones

The Solicitor addressed those present stating that as the Lease for the premises had expired from a legal point of view unless the Lease was extended, the Sub-Committee were unable to determine the application.

Resolved

That, the application for the Grant of a new Premises Licence in respect of the premises known as the Black Country Wellbeing Centre, Vale Street, Upper Gornal be deferred until such time as the position in relation to the Lease for the premises be determined.

51. **Questions Under Council Procedure Rule 11.8**

There were no questions to the Chair pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 11.8.

The meeting ended at 10.50am

CHAIR